the lesion the temperature increased to 42 C. ; the respiration was increased, also the frequency of the pulse, with diminution of the chloride in the urine. The state of the rabbit during the experiment, and many weeks after it, was excellent ; there was no disturbance of the motor, sensory, or digestive apparatuses The point where the needle entered was somewhat to the side of the place of junction of the sagittal and coronal sutures, and then it was pushed to the base of the brain and withdrawn. The increase of temperature lasts two to three days, and then returns to normal.—*Deutsche medicinische Wochenschrift.* No. 51, 1884.

[NOTE.—The location of this centre has been pointed out by the translator in a previous number of this JOURNAL : "The influence of the diabetic puncture upon the temperature of the body, and especially the liver-temperature."]

Herr Aronsohn has made a series of experiments upon this point. Observations at the bedside have shown diabetics to have a subnormal temperature. His experiments were made upon rabbits ; his results were as follows : When the sugar-puncture is correctly made without injury to the neighboring parts, the temperature of the liver sinks, as it also does in the muscles and rectum. By injury to the adjacent parts the temperature in the beginning falls, but returns to the original temperature. If the sugar-puncture fails, or by simple injury of the medulla, or pons or the lateral parts of the medulla, the temperature increases without a preliminary fall about 1.5° above normal.—*Deutsche medicinische Wochenschrift*, No. 46, 1884.

THE VASO-DILATORS AND VASO-CONSTRICTORS.—Drs. von Anrep and Cybulski have made a series of experiments upon this point. They used the plethysmograph, and found that atropia did not cause any paralysis or weakening of the irritability of the nervi erigentes. They arrived at the following conclusions : There is no analogy between the vaso-constrictors and vagi in their relation to atropia. There is no analogy between the vaso-constrictors and the accelerators of the heart, since the strongest irritation of them is not able to overcome the effect of a very weak irritation of the vagus, whilst irritation of the vaso-constrictors with weak or strong currents removes the effect of the irritation of the vaso-dilators. A definite height of blood-pressure is an indispensable condition for the appearance of a marked dilatation of the vessels. There is no important difference between these two kinds of vaso-motor nerves. The facts contradict the view of two complete independent neuro-muscular apparatuses in the vascular walls.—*Centralblatt für Nervenheilkunde*, von Dr. Erlenmeyer, No. 24, 1884.

THE LIVER-FERMENT.—Miss Florence Eves has made a series of experiments upon this subject, and arrived at the following conclusions: Since an amylolytic ferment can be obtained from the blood, and since the blood-vessels of the livers used had not been washed out before the livers were placed in alcohol, it is only fair to suppose that a portion at least of the ferment obtained in each case really came from the blood and not from the substance of the hepatic cells. There is evidence of the existence of an amylolytic ferment in the liver which may be extracted in the way described, but the amount is very small. This is the more striking when it is remembered that the liver used in each case had, in order to get rid of glycogen, been kept till the glycogen had disappeared—that is, until such time that it might be expected there would be the maximum amount of ferment present.

The sugar formed *post mortem* in the liver is certainly, as known from the experiments of Seegen and Külz, true dextrose, and this was confirmed by an examination of the alcoholic washings of the livers used in this research. The sugar formed by the action of the liver ferment when isolated is, at all events in the case of starch, and very probably in the case of glycogen also, not dextrose, but some sugar with a much smaller reducing power. It may be maltose, but is certainly not dextrose, which is the really important point. This investigation seems to fully bear out the suggestion expressed at the outset, that the *post-mortem* conversion of sugar in the liver is not to be attributed to a ferment action. Since the sugar formed *post mortem* is true dextrose, and that which can be obtained by the action of the amylolytic ferment which can be extracted from the liver is not dextrose, then either the liver must contain a ferment which differs entirely from the amylolytic ferments of the body with which we are at present acquainted, or else the *post-mortem* production of sugar in the liver is not due to amylolytic ferment action at all.—*Journal of Physiology*, vol. v., Nos. 4, 5, 6.

THE SPINAL REFLEXES.—Helmholtz found the reflex-time ten to twelve times greater than the time required for the conduction in peripheral nerves of about the same length. Prof. Rosenthal has studied this subject, and discovered that the reflex-time (that is, the time elapsing between the moment of sensory irritation till the beginning of muscular contraction), changes in an extraordinary manner, according to the strength of the irritation and the place of it. By direct irritation of a motor nerve, with minimal to strong currents, then within certain limits the extent of the muscular contraction increases, as is well known, with the strength of the current. It is otherwise with the reflexes. He also discovered the remarkable fact, that by irritation of a sensory nerve coming from the lumbar cord, the effect was conveyed to the motor nerves in the upper part of the cervical cord and not to those arising from the lumbar segment.—*Centralblatt für die medicinischen Wissenschaften*, 1885, No. 5.